

Part 5. Management Actions

The following actions may differ from the draft plan due to comments BLM received from the visitors. Visitor comments, staff input, supervisors' and management guidance were used for the final decisions. It is important to remember adjustments are to be expected, as the results of the reservations system are unknown at this time. For example, the extra vehicle issue may not be a big issue once reservations are more available, and more user friendly. We may or may not need to paint lines on the pavement. The details of a reservations policy will be worked out with a reservations contractor.

5.1 Carrying Capacity of Resources versus Visitor Demand

- Action 1.** Expand the reservation system in 2003 to 66 percent, for a total of 40 sites, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.
- Action 2.** Monitor and document the results of the reservation system use for one year in regards to visitor satisfaction, visitor use of the system and staffing needs. Make adjustments as appropriate.
- Action 3.** Continue to turn visitors away when the site is full.
- Action 4.** Utilize a sign at the intersection of State Highway 38 and County Road 3 to indicate if the campground is full. State that Loon Lake Lodge and Fish Haven is open. Set a routine time to change the sign if needed, such as 5:00 P.M. on Friday and Saturday only.
- Action 5.** Re-instate the Day Use fee after 11:00 A.M. for campers vacating the campground and ensure they move their vehicle to the Day Use parking area.
- Action 6.** The Day Use will remain a first-come first-served area. A policy addressing personal belongings left in the Day Use Area or Campground to "save a spot" would be written and the visitors informed. Personal belongings left unattended for an extended period (to be defined in the written policy) may be subject to removal and a fee may be required to retrieve the belongings at the booth the following day.
- Action 7.** Establish reduced fees for the off-season including week days, particularly for the months of April, May, and mid-September through the end of October. LLRA will remain closed in winter due to tree hazards. Market the area to spread the use to the off-season. The annual fee schedule analysis would address any changes.
- Action 8.** Identify projects on-site which were accomplished with Recreation Fee-Demo funds and provide an opportunity for the visitors to suggest future projects, as required by the Recreation Fee-Demo Program.
- Action 9.** Annually compile and keep records of visitor comments. Incorporate visitor suggestions, staff discussions, new technologies and materials into new projects. New projects will consider ROS, VRM, visitor use data and current health and safety issues as well as comply with ADA, NEPA, other plans, etc.
- Action 10.** Revisit the number of people allowed per site if sites get reconstructed. Consider incorporating group sites into a design.

- Action 11.** Develop a trail information guide specific to Loon Lake.
- Action 12.** Coordinate with and credit Elliott State Forest regarding trails and signs on state forest lands. Establish on-the-ground markers to clearly identify our mutual boundaries.
- Action 13.** Work with the Coos Regional Trails Partnership to determine the potential for a trail system in the Loon Lake region.
- Action 14.** Continue to utilize a physical, visible and valid permit for vehicles and water craft in LLRA. A vehicle must display the valid permit to stay in the park.
- Action 15.** Charge extra vehicle fees as follows: An extra vehicle is defined as any licensed, motorized vehicle exceeding one per site, except where authorized. Currently the authorized exceptions are the group and double sites. The fee structure may be adjusted in the future. It is evaluated and set annually according to specified BLM procedures. Fees would be included in the planning process for upgrading the rest of the sites in the campground.
- Action 16.** Determine the feasibility of extending certain parking spots to accommodate jet ski trailers without increasing the number of parking spaces or people. Consider moving the basketball hoop.
- Action 17.** Seek customer input on the viability of a trailer parking area outside the park, within walking distance.
- Action 18.** Paint lines on the pavement at each site to indicate the maximum space the vehicles must fit into.

5.2 Visitor Health and Safety

- Action 19.** Continue present emergency services and procedures. Include safety information in all materials and programs prepared for visitors.
- Action 20.** Continue present procedures for fire response and follow recommendations of the BLM's FMO for fuels reduction.
- Action 21.** Provide appropriate level training for LLRA staff on swift water rescue techniques, how to minimize the dangers, and who to call for help.
- Action 22.** Maintain the warning signs installed near the common access points to the creek.
- Action 23.** Include a safety message regarding the dangers of exploring the creek in the information and interpretive programs given to visitors.
- Action 24.** Provide written and verbal safety reminders to adults and children with bicycles, skateboards, scooters and other devices as well as motorists, regarding speed on the pavement. If any accidents occur related to this, install speed bumps or other devices to slow the activity.
- Action 25.** Develop a simple yet comprehensive pet policy which designates where pets are allowed and include "dogs must not be left unattended at any time" in the policy.

Action 26. Inform visitors, staff and Law Enforcement Officers of the pet regulations and post applicable sections of the CFR. Remind incoming visitors with pets they are responsible for the pets and encourage compliance of picking up feces by placing “doggie bag” dispensers throughout the park.

Action 27. Noisy or aggressive dogs and dogs chained to trees will be noted and the pet owners will be asked to leave the park with their pet.

Action 28. Continue to monitor and document any problems associated with recreationists on the road and work with appropriate county officials to find solutions.

5.3 Visitor Services

Action 29. Clearly define duties and responsibilities for all staff and volunteers at LLRA.

Action 30. Document suggestions from staff which are utilized to improve efficiency.

Action 31. Continue to provide firewood for sale to visitors.

Action 32. Continue to provide environmental education programs. Evaluate and modify the educational programs to increase visitors’ knowledge and appreciation of the region’s natural resources, as demonstrated by their behavior.

Action 33. Continue to provide law enforcement on site.

Action 34. Evaluate current workloads and identify the most efficient levels of service BLM staff can offer to visitors.

Action 35. If a feasible proposal is submitted to lease the entire facility, the proposal can be analyzed using standard procedures in the Land Use and Realty program.

5.4 Administrative

Action 36. Post Title 43 of the U. S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR’s), Sections 8365.1-7 through 8360.0-7, on site in a conspicuous location, as required in the regulation.

Action 37. Provide clear direction annually to the Site Manager, staff and Law Enforcement Officer to ensure consistent understanding and enforcement of the rules and regulations.

Action 38. Keep at least one current copy of the Code of Federal Regulations on-site, with marked reference to the Developed Recreation Sites sections.

Action 39. Eliminate free camping passes or other free items due to another visitor’s poor behavior. Document the number of times per season this is a problem and work with the Law Enforcement Officer on improvements.

Action 40. Annually review the Law Enforcement agreement with Douglas County and make necessary changes.

Action 41. Confirm the privately built docks are on BLM land. Resolve the trespass by meeting with interested parties to find a solution which may include a Special Recreation Permit, a Land Use Permit, or dock removal.

- Action 42.** Continue Standard Operating Procedures regarding Special Use Permits.
- Action 43.** Continue use of the BLM Coos Bay District's form OR 120-8300-1, giving permission to use a metal detector in recreation areas, with Area Manager's signature. Keep an annual record of the number and location of permit authorizations, and determine how long these records need to be kept.
- Action 44.** Continue to provide annual week day and daily boat launch opportunities.
- Action 45.** Follow-up on current efforts to utilize the Bureau's integrated Management Information Systems to better track data items collected, such as how many boats are launched each month, to provide fiscal and planning analysis data.
- Action 46.** Determine the best method to consistently obtain the most accurate visitor numbers and use it.
- Action 47.** Activate the traffic counter during the "off season" only and remove it when the booth is operating to reduce the amount of vehicles counted two and three times.
- Action 48.** Develop a short term and long term Vegetation Management Strategy for the campground and day use area using naturally occurring native vegetation and low maintenance concepts. Designate a staff member or the site manager as coordinator for all planting and vegetation removal.
- Action 49.** Explore potential funding and cooperative efforts with BLM weed specialist and state agencies to target the removal of aquatic weeds, particularly around the swimming area and boat launch.
- Action 50.** Educate both staff and visitors including boaters, about how to reduce the spread of invasive species. Evaluate installing a hose at the boat dock for boaters' use.
- Action 51.** Encourage increased visitation by Douglas County Marine Patrol.
- Action 52.** Utilize groups such as the Power Squadron and U.S. Coast Guard to provide educational materials and to conduct boating safety programs on site.
- Action 53.** Encourage visitors to relay their concerns to the appropriate agency by providing the agency name and address to the concerned visitor. Clarify agency responsibilities and jurisdictions annually for BLM staff.